

THE AMERICAN INDEPENDENT HAS OVER 100,000 READERS

The American Independent

VOLUME 2

OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY, MAY, 1932

NUMBER 6

THE LITERARY DIGEST BROUGHT TO TIME

This Great Magazine Commits A Fraud on the American People—Its Publishers Wet Millionaires and Endeavor to Fool the Voters With False and Fraudulent Propaganda—May Have Committed Treason for Which Publishers Might Be Hanged—Do they Receive Liquor Funds From London and Paris?—Congressional Investigation Demanded—Commits Treason if Any of the Money Comes From Europe—Paper is Not Paying For Fraudulent and Scandalous Polls—Wet Jews Arrayed Against the National Constitution and Lined Up With European Wet Forces.

Knowing that over a hundred thousand men and women will read what I am about to say and feeling a very heavy responsibility resting upon me by reason of this fact, I shall speak in soberness and in truth but in fearlessness, and some may call it audacity. The time has come in the history of the prohibition warfare for patriots to be willing to face the martyr's doom. In speaking the truth, though it costs me my liberty, and possibly my life, I shall not fear or flinch in doing what is my duty. Follow me clear through this startling story and then re-read it and after that hand your copy of this paper to a friend in order that he or she might also be enlightened.

There has been talk for over a year of an European conspiracy being formed to break down the Eighteenth Amendment, those conspirators living in Paris, Berlin and London. No direct proof of such a conspiracy has yet been uncovered. In this article we propose to show the "contact man," if any, that links these European conspirators and the American traitors in a world-wide movement to undermine the American Constitution and to resurrect John Barleycorn, again setting him free to prey upon the youth of our land, debauch the manhood and womanhood of the country and last, to destroy every semblance of sobriety and personal liberty, that liberty that goes with all free government to have any sort of government the people may choose to have.

I have read the Literary Digest for nearly forty years; I was personally acquainted with the great Dr. I. K. Funk, one of its original publishers and have met him many times in national prohibition conventions and conferences. Just so long as Dr. Funk and his co-publisher, Mr. Wagnalls, lived, the Literary Digest, and all other publications of that firm, took its dry stand and maintained its bitter opposition to the whole infernal liquor traffic. Long since having passed to their heavenly reward, some scheming wets in New York and London, most of whom are said to be Jewish millionaires, secured a majority of the voting stock of the Funk & Wagnalls Company, the publishers of the Literary Digest and many other publications and books. This is said to have taken place four or five years ago. From that date to this, these Jewish wet publishers have been industriously endeavoring to break down the Eighteenth Amendment in a clandestine literature campaign to show to the country, that the sentiment is opposed to prohibition. In this dastardly wicked, and traitorous effort, two huge so-called prohibition polls have been taken by this turn-coat magazine both of which show the nation to be wet about three to one, a manifest lie on its very face. To hold each of these votes is said to have cost the company a million dollars, or two million dollars to hold the two "polls."

But the publishers of the Literary Digest do not only lie when they say the country is wet three to one, but they lie when they say they, the publishers, are defraying the expenses of taking this so-called poll of the nation, and why?

They say they are, or have, mailed out twenty million ballots, and there we have no reason to doubt their word, for every letter they mail out is liquor propaganda pure and simple. They also say in these letters that they are taking the poll as a pure subscription-getting campaign, and there they lie, and this we propose to show the readers to their satisfaction. The publishers of the Literary Digest are not defraying the million-dollar expense they have incurred, and they know they are not. I doubt if they are paying even as much as one cent of the expense, and the Lord and they alone only know how much more than the expense is being furnished to them by the liquor forces in America and in Europe.

The other national poll on prohibition was taken in 1930 at a cost to them, so they said, of over a million dollars. In the letters sent out they asked for a single seventeen-weeks subscription to their magazine at the cost of one dollar. Naturally, a few, a very few, took the magazine by sending their dollar, but before the present poll had started the circulation of the Literary Digest had sunk from 1,750,000 to 1,400,000, if the best figures we have been able to secure on their circulation can be relied on. In other words, they gained a few short term subscriptions from the riff-raff and wet forces but lost over a half million subscriptions from the dry forces. If, after tasting the bitter pill of subscription-losing that has ever been handed a great magazine, does any sane person believe the same publishers and the same business management back of this magazine would again try another such experiment and take its consequent slump in subscriptions that is certain to follow, if getting

new subscribers was their motive for holding it? They certainly would not.

During the two years following their 1930 poll the other great magazines of the nation have increased their circulation by from ten to twenty-five per cent. If the other great magazines have increased their subscription lists from ten to twenty-five per cent during these two years and the Literary Digest, after having spent two million dollars in holding the polls, having lost twenty-five per cent of their subscriptions could it be possible that they are holding the polls to help place on their subscription books new and additional subscribers? Any high school boy or girl would answer most emphatically NO. What, then is the reason back of these notorious polls? The reason is not at all difficult to find. Let us find it.

To start with, the personnel of the Literary Digest is now wet, soaking wet; they are to a very large extent Jews, who are ninety-nine per cent wet. So the wet forces of the world found ready listeners when they began negotiations with the Digest publishers looking forward to the breaking down of the Eighteenth Amendment.

But the publishers of the Literary Digest knew such a poll would not only cost them a million or more dollars, but would cost them a half million subscribers and that ultimately the people who had hitherto taken it would spew it out of their mouths, so they knew better than to bear all, or possibly, any part of the necessary expenses in holding such a poll. It was as natural as it could be, that the forces back of the wet side would get behind a paper with a history like the Digest has and foot any bill necessary to take the poll. They knew how the poll would come out when it was concluded to hold it, for if the votes were not turned in with a wet majority they could easily count a wet majority, and the world never know the difference. Their entire strength has been predicated on the HISTORY of this once great and clean paper, feeling that the public would take it for its worth under Funk & Wagnalls and forget that now a wet crowd, without scruples or conscience has it in charge.

Now where did all this money come by which, the poll was held? Naturally, the superficial will cry out, John J. Rascob and the DuPonts, which very likely is not true, except in a small way. Europe is interested in breaking down our prohibition law in order to open up a hitherto-profitable trade with the French Wine, the London Whiskey and the German brand of alcohol. Then European wets know very well that if prohibition succeeds in America they, through economic reasons, will also be forced to adopt it. But the furnishing of funds from London, Paris and Berlin being criminal, and in certain cases, treason, if furnished to political leaders, Rascob and others must find a "contact man", as our racketeers would call it, who would gather up this money and put it to good use.

The Literary Digest has a publishing house in London and millions of dollars are invested in the British Empire in the publication of its books and periodicals. This London office could very easily be the intermediary in collecting this huge sum of money and in transferring it to New York without the slightest possibility of being detected, UNLESS something like a congressional investigation was attempted that would be strung out for many months. I believe the Literary Digest has served as the "contact man" between London, Paris, Berlin and New York, in raising countless millions of dollars now being used to tear up the United States constitution and to break down the Eighteenth Amendment. The Literary Digest has done the cause of prohibition more harm than all other agencies combined.

If the congressional investigation should prove that my theory is correct, then the publishers of the Digest should be tried for treason and given the proper punishment going with such a conviction, which is death by hanging. Possibly, within three years time all the members of the Literary Digest staff could be proved traitors to our government, if so, the public would very likely demand the full punishment going with such acts. Our constitution clearly forbids a private citizen to accept gifts from any foreign power or political ruler unless such gifts are laid before Congress and whose sanction must be secured for its acceptance. In this case, if my theory be true, the Literary Digest has transgressed the law on treason and its publishers have laid themselves liable for to the hangman's noose. I herewith demand a congressional investigation at once, that the committee be given full power to search all European channels for any gifts that may have been made through this publication, or through any other source, for the purpose of influencing public opinion in our country

through the intermediary of American business men or firms.

One other statement, and we are through for this time: The daily press of our large cities is almost universally opposed to the Eighteenth Amendment and is working night and day to fool the people into repealing it. There is no sentiment whatever in this daily press campaign to break down the prohibition laws, but is one wholly of mercenary motives. In case the Eighteenth Amendment should be repealed it would automatically open up such field for fruitful and paying advertising to the daily press that one would no longer talk in dollars and cents when speaking of advertising. If Wrigleys can spend SIXTY MILLION DOLLARS each year for advertising their famous brand of chewing gum, pray tell me what would be the enormous amount spent with the daily papers in advertising this sort of beer, this sort of whiskey and this brand of wine? A thousand manufacturers of whiskey, beer, and wine with champagne and other drinks followed, would fill the pages of the daily papers with such advertising as would make Wrigleys look like two cents and would make the various cigarette ads look like pikers. That, and only that, is the big reason motivating these daily papers in their untiring efforts to break down the Eighteenth Amendment. Possibly it would mean new advertising the very first year of at least six hundred million dollars.

The Cincinnati Enquirer receives nearly a thousand dollars for one page advertisement. Think what the publishers would receive in new advertising if it obtained only three pages each day and five pages on Sunday, in the course of a year. It would amount to that paper to more than a million dollars a year. The Courier-Journal would receive more than a half million a year in new advertising. Can you ever think of any of these papers telling the truth on prohibition with such fabulous sums of money within their reach immediately after the Eighteenth Amendment is taken out of the constitution?

Friends, help me circulate these facts; help me reach the people with such truths as I am here telling. The people are hungry for the facts; they will turn on these conspirators and put them to shame and out of business just as soon as they find out the universal motives back of the liquor campaign.

The Literary Digest receives possibly \$5,500 per week for a page advertisement. If it contained only ten full pages of ads of the various brands of alcoholic drinks after the Eighteenth Amendment is removed from the constitution, that would mean to it every week of the year, \$55,000.00 in new advertising contracts, and in one year's time it would amount to more than three million dollars. Every time you catch yourself saying, "Prohibition does not prohibit" and "It is worse than it was" you only make out of yourself a handy man for these fellows who hope to obtain much wealth by the removal of this great constitutional amendment from the fundamental law of the land.

Let us stand by the constitution and be ready to meet every lie the Literary Digest or the daily papers tell on the one law that has made more happy homes than all other laws enacted since our government has been in existence.

W. M. LIKINS, Editor.

THE BYRD METHOD OF REFERENDUM

The wet city press, and the liquor forces shout over the suggestion of ex-Governor Byrd of Virginia, a bone dry, and a possible presidential candidate on the Democratic ticket, that he is not opposed to the right sort of a referendum on the prohibition question, or on any other question. He suggested that the constitution might be amended to make it more flexible than it now is, and more easily amended. He thus suggested an amendment in order that the prohibition question might be brought before the American people through a direct vote of the people, and that if three-fourths of the states favor repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, or any other amendment, by a direct vote, then it shall be repealed.

We fail to see where the wets have any reason to shout over such an amendment as that. There could never be thirty-six states that would vote wet, as there can not be thirty-six state legislatures that would vote wet. The Byrd plan for amendment leaves the wets right where they are now, and there is where they do not wish to be left. There are not many dries who would oppose the Byrd proposition. If both the Democratic and Republican parties wish to put such a plank in their platform, there will be no dries found opposing it. But the wets? Well, they would howl, for that is exactly what they do not want.

A Nation Cannot Defy God's Law and Have His Blessing

The American Independent

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W. M. LIKINS Editor and Publisher

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NAIL THE LID ON TIGHT.

This issue of The American Independent should have a nation-wide circulation; each edition should have a nation-wide circulation. This paper is a voice crying in the wilderness and will become a great factor in helping to save the Eighteenth Amendment from the wolves clawing at its throat. Send us an order for a bundle of this issue at the rate of one cent per copy. Get busy and do something to help save the greatest piece of humanitarian law that any nation has passed since God gave Moses the Ten Commandments thousands of years ago. Just as Satan has been trying to break to pieces the law of God so also his imps and abettors are trying to break to pieces this law, a law that has already made our nation a sober nation.

We also want you to send us a club of subscribers making it at least ten. In clubs of ten, you may have them at fifteen cent per name. Surely you can think of doing no less than that.

I will make the paper and make it so hot that any one, though he be a wet, will read it; now you give me circulation for it and the powerful wet propagandists will be driven from the face of the earth. I WANT you to help. You must help put this paper in the homes of those who ought to have it.

Yours for victory,

W. M. LIKINS, Editor

THE FINAL LINE-UP OF THE TWO POLITICAL PARTIES.

It will not be long now until the two political parties will be in session in Chicago, to write their respective platforms and nominate their presidential candidates. As to the Republican party, its candidate, unless Providence interferes, will be Herbert Hoover to succeed himself. As to the Democratic candidate, it looks like Roosevelt for a certainty, as it is hardly possible that he can be "stopped".

The national Republican platform will be dry, or we do not properly read the signs of the times. It would be political suicide for Mr. Hoover to allow either a wet or a moist plank to creep into the party platform. Should he do such a thing, neither the dries nor the wets would have any use for him. Should he do such a thing, he would be doing it solely for policy sake, somewhat similar to Mrs. McCormick in Illinois. The editor of this paper does not believe Hoover will run on a wet platform, or even on a platform calling for a referendum, unless the referendum is such a plank as the dries do not oppose. In other words, the dries and not the wets, will write the plank on the prohibition question that goes into the Republican platform.

The Democratic party carries with it a little more uncertainty on the prohibition question. It is taken for granted that the wets will write their own plank into the Democratic platform, but this is somewhat doubted in certain circles. If Smith should keep his fight up against Roosevelt, it could be possible that Roosevelt would somewhat surrender to the dry forces in order to obtain a certain number of votes he has not yet acquired. But this is mere speculation: the best authorities believe that the Democratic party will have a wet man as a candidate.

During the six months preceding, the editor of this paper has been in more than half of the Kentucky counties, and has visited almost every town in these counties. Up to the time this is written, of the sixty counties he has visited, he has been to only five Republican counties. This

paper now has a hundred thousand readers, largely in Kentucky at the present time. We have interviewed literally hundreds of dry Democrats and with hardly an exception we have been told by these same Dry Democrat's that if a wet candidate is nominated by the Democratic party they will again vote for Herbert Hoover in case he is on a dry platform. We can speak for Kentucky and give you the way this state will go before even the candidates are nominated and the following will be the results:

A Democrat on a wet platform, Hoover on a dry platform, Kentucky will go for Hoover by from thirty to fifty thousand majority. Let the Democrats ponder over this statement. We know what we are talking about; we have seen too many Democrats during the last six months to be fooled as to the outcome. The Democrats on a wet platform will lose Kentucky.

IS HOOVER UNPOPULAR?

In political parlance, President Hoover is counted, by amateurs of course, as an unpopular president. With real men, those who sense issues and know human nature, he is not regarded as a very unpopular president. He is being renominated just now as hardly any other president has ever been nominated. Almost every semblance of opposition to him in his own party has already disappeared. As a matter of fact Herbert Hoover has made us a very good president and the politicians know he has.

While we do not give much credence to so-called straw votes, yet if they are taken fairly they do sometimes give the drift of public opinion. The Pathfinder, a national magazine, of over a million circulation, has just concluded a straw vote on the presidential candidate and their relative popularity. Out of approximately 235,000 votes cast from every state of the nation, Herbert Hoover comes out with 115,042 votes, his nearest rival being Franklin D. Roosevelt, who receives 49,632. The next highest in the list of candidates, is John Garner, who receives 16,959, and following him Alfred E. Smith, who comes out with 12,299, and then next comes "Alfalfa" Bill Murray, with 11,541. Then follows many other Republican and Democratic candidates, with William E. Borah, leading these names with 4,387. On down the line the Pathfinder's table of votes shows the supposed relative strength.

Sixty per cent of these votes are from the rural districts, the very districts Hoover is credited as being weakest, among our farmers. If anything at all is shown by such a vote it clearly shows that the Democratic party must not count on winning with "just any one as a candidate." Hoover is Not unpopular; there is possibly no man in America who is more popular with the women voters. With a dry plank in the Republican platform, and Hoover standing on it, and a wet plank in the Democratic platform, and a wet candidate, the Democrats will find it impossible to persuade the voters of the nation to make a change.

If the Democratic leaders exercise good political judgment they will shut the mouths of these blatant wets and stop them from again wrecking their party. Hoover will be elected over a wet Democrat.

THE ISSUE IS CLEAR-CUT.

Let there be no misunderstanding as to the issue involved in the wets to repeal the Eighteenth Amendment. It is so clear that the most ignorant can understand it.

The wet propagandists do NOT want government ownership of the liquor traffic, though they do now and then refer to the so called Canadian system, which is no system at all, as almost every one of the various provinces in Canada has a system of its own. What the wet forces wish most of all is the removal of the Eighteenth Amendment from the Constitution so that the different states might have such a system as they most desire. This is exactly as it was before the constitution was amended and is exactly what the dries do not want, and what they will not have if

they can help it. The wet states paid no attention to the law in the dry states before adoption of the Eighteenth Amendment and we have no assurance they would regard the rights of the dry states in case it is repealed any more than they did before it was passed.

The issue is "Repeal or not repeal" and nothing else. The wets wish it repealed so they can engage in the liquor business; the dries wish it to remain so the people of the nation can be protected from the ravages of the liquor traffic. The wet city press is the power behind the throne of the repealists, coupled with the great weekly magazines. The press wishes the Eighteenth Amendment repealed so that the various brands of whiskey, beer, ale, champagne, wines, etc., could be advertised in their columns, thus throwing millions of dollars into their advertising departments. The wet papers are wet wholly from a mercenary point of view and not from any sense of honor or conscience. If it says prohibition is a failure it does so in order to fool the people into voting for its repeal so the wet press can again legally advertise the different brands of alcoholic drink. Just so long as prohibition remains the law of the land this juicy business is kept from the wet press. The wet press does not wish prohibition repealed to stop racketeering, as it asserts it does; the wet press does not wish it repealed, so as to stop young people from drinking, for the very moment it is repealed, in case it should be, this wet press that laments with shamefully hypocritical tears, would start an advertising campaign for the different brands of drinks at so much per inch, regardless of the boys and girls who would be misled. The real issue is not difficult to see, although the wet press tries to cloud it under different heads.

A VOICE FROM MICHIGAN

Dear Mr. Likins:

We have just received a copy of your little paper and like it. Such a paper as that is greatly needed at this time, a time when men and women are being misled by false propaganda. I pray that God, through His people, will completely overthrow this monstrous evil.

Mrs. Charles Price,
Baraga, Mich.

MEETING WET ARGUMENTS

Here is a book of forty-eight pages, printed on thick egg-shell paper, with large readable type, author

W. M. LIKINS

Editor of THE AMERICAN INDEPENDENT Mr. Likins takes up in this book every important phase of the prohibition question, one by one, and answers the objections of the wets. He does it in plain, old fashioned language so every one who reads may know what he reads. You can meet

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ADDRESS:

The American Independent
P. O. Box 130, OWENSBORO, KY.

IF YOU BELIEVE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS YOU SHOULD BELIEVE ALSO IN PROHIBITION

A MINISTERIAL REFERENDA

This paper is starting a ministerial referendum in Kentucky by mailing a ballot to every minister in the state. If you are a minister and receive one of these ballots please mark it the way you wish to vote and return it to The American Independent, making certain to sign your name and giving your denominational connection.

We wish to throw the lie back into the teeth of the Literary Digest when they make the ministry of Kentucky appear to be 31% wet. That is a down right, infamous, purposely and carefully told falsehood, with not one single degree of truth in it. I propose to show this lying sheet that the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterians, Disciples, and all the other Evangelical Churches are practically 100% DRY. I also propose to show them that not even the ministers of the Catholic Church will stand a majority for the return of the old time, discredited and disgraced saloons, the very thing the wet press is fighting for.

These votes must all be written in the handwriting of the different ministers, mailed to this office, post office given, together with the denomination, and they will be counted absolutely as they are returned. There will be no way to vote twice, or to fool those who count the votes by the ballot falling into the wrong hand and being filled out by a wet who is not a minister, for the name of the minister must be given and his name must also appear in the regular church directory of his own denomination.

To help count these votes I have selected a representative of the Association Against the Eighteenth Amendment here in Owensboro, who will sign the returns along with the dry representative. I will preserve these votes for months after they are counted so that any representative of the wet press may see, and the Literary Digest may send a representative to my office to look over them. There will be a few wets, of course, but they will be almost as scarce as a "hen's teeth." The Literary Digest will be given some of its own dope, and it's got to swallow it, as bitter as the pill will be.

BANKERS, PREACHERS, LAWYERS, DOCTORS

The Literary Digest says it has taken another poll, this time of the members of the above named professions.

According to its report on this so-called poll, the bankers went wet two to one; the lawyers three to one; the physicians more than three to one; while the clergy just barely pull through with a dry majority.

Now, isn't that nice and isn't it news?

Preachers wet? Lawyers, bankers and physicians wet, three to one.

Well, it so happens that The American Independent is also taking a poll of the preachers in Kentucky, and our word for it, when the returns come in, they will not be nearly as wet as the Literary Digest says they are. We wish to call your attention to three or four features in a poll that is manifestly dishonest, and with no other intent behind it than to discredit the dry forces, and what is commonly called, the Protestant people.

It is no secret that our Catholic folks are generally regarded as wet, although hundreds of thousands of them vote dry. P. H. Callahan, no greater man in the nation, a Catholic, but a stalwart worker for the dry cause. Possibly he spends more money and more time working for the success of the Eighteenth Amendment than any other man in the nation, and he does it with as unselfish a heart as any person has ever performed a task. Yet, it is no secret, that many ministers in the Catholic church vote wet.

Then there are the Jews, ninety-nine per cent wet, far wetter than our Catholic brethren. Our Episcopalian friends, and more especially in the east, many are on the wet side of the question. Certain branches of the Lutheran Church, the ministers in the Greek Church, etc., are largely wet.

Suppose the Literary Digest is counting the votes fairly, few believe it is sending out the ballots fairly. Take, for instance, the state of Georgia, where there are few Catholics and only a limited number of Jews. In this state we find the Digest gives 369 dry votes to 73 wet votes for its clergy. In Mississippi, almost wholly Protestant, we find it reports 276 dry votes and 65 wet votes. In North Carolina, where few Jews live and where only a few members of the Catholic Church are found, we see that the Digest gives 893 votes to the dries and 130 to the wets. In Virginia, we find it reports 707 dry clergy votes and only 158 wet clergy votes and in Virginia there is almost an entire absence of members of the Catholic persuasion, or of the Jewish race.

We are not speaking of this as any attack upon the Catholic church, for it must not be regarded in that light. It is only speaking what almost every informed member of the Catholic church, and those other moist churches, know to be a fact, though sad it is.

Now move on up to Kentucky, another southern state whose voters are dry. Here we find 588 dry votes and 279 votes, evidently the 279 wet voters representing that very large Catholic clergy and members of the German and other moist clergy. In this state alone we have 2,850 Baptist ministers, saying nothing of the Methodist, Disciples, Presbyterians, and other large Protestant bodies. Does any one believe for a moment that if a ballot was sent to ALL the Evangelical churches the report would have been what it was? Actually, the Catholic, Episcopalian, German and Jewish churches are not as wet as friends of liquor have been claiming for them if 279 votes is all that can be mustered for them in Kentucky. We are starting a thorough and most complete poll of all denominations in Kentucky and we hope by our next issue we may have some "alarming" figures to present to the wilfully lying Digest publishers.

I doubt if the Catholics are as overwhelmingly as wet as is claimed for them by the wet forces. There are many fine, noble and Godly ministers in the Catholic church who are working for the retention of the Eighteenth Amendment. It takes grit and courage to stand for this great law in the Catholic church that is so often and so erroneously counted solidly "wet".

A CRITICISM WELL TAKEN

We are in receipt of a fine letter from Warren C. McIntire, of the Asbury College, at Wilmore, Ky., that we feel like giving in full. It follows:

My Dear Mr. Likins:

I have just finished reading the March issue of The American Independent. It is the first issue that has come to my attention. I wish to mention three things:

First. I wish to congratulate you on the stand you are taking for the dry cause. You are setting the matter before the people in a compelling way that will gain attention and win confidence. May God bless and strengthen your arms to wage this fight.

Second. The article you write of Asbury College is worthy of appreciation. Your visit to Asbury did good and your good words for the school spoken with such an evident sincerity that the article is a asset to the school. I thank you for it.

Third. I deeply regret to find in your article on page two—Where Dries Blunder—the thing that possibly more than any other has been deadly to the dry cause—one dry editor attacking another, one advocate of the dry cause attempting to expose what he thinks is a weakness in some dry advocate. It seems a pity in such a fine paper as you are putting out to find such an article. When one editor attacks another who is advocating the same great cause, he is definitely helping the enemy and destroying his own work. Use your skill in fighting the enemy and do not again put on a civil war. Other men could attack you with probably just as good reason. The thing to do in this tragic hour of crises is for every lover of the dry cause to face the common enemy and be at peace with those espousing the case of prohibition.

With appreciation and good will—Warren C. McIntire, Wilmore, Kentucky.

NOTE—The thought of being critical of those souls who are struggling against great odds in helping to beat back the wet wave, was far from us. We were calling attention to the often repeated error on the part of dry workers when they attempt to explain away the numbers of arrests for drunkenness, the number in the penitentiary, without taking into consideration all the conditions and facts surrounding these arrests and commitments to the penal institutions. The very fact that we DO have more arrests for drunkenness now than before the event of prohibition is proof certain of the complete success of prohibition, when one stops to think that arrests were seldom made for getting drunk in the old saloon days, they just being left to "sober up", on the streets, in the saloons, or anywhere their parents, friends or relatives could or would take them. Same thing is true of criminals, they are searched for now far more than they were in the old days and we have more different kinds of crime now denominated as "felonies," than we did then, having increased this character of crimes nearly three hundred percent. In such cases of course there would be more in the penitentiaries now than 20 years ago, even if there was only half as much crime. A table of statistics, used indiscriminately, is useless either as wet propaganda or as dry propaganda, UNLESS all conditions under which these tables are made are taken into consideration.

Will Rogers says, that after all, the opinion as to whether prohibition has failed or succeeded will finally rest on the personal observation of the individual voter and not on an array of tables and assertions by wet people. This is true, save the younger voter has had no observation as to conditions in saloon days and he must get his information from reading papers and listening to others talk or speak. There is not a man or woman forty years old that sees one drunk now to where he saw fifty, twenty years ago, and this, pinned down, almost every wet will admit.

A VERY HOT ONE

Dear Mr. Likins:

I certainly do appreciate the stand you are taking against the "Literary Digest." I wish you to urge all the dries to quit taking it and subscribe for papers and magazines that help us instead of trying to break down our laws. I had rather be in heaven learning my A B C's than in hell with the wets reading the "literary digest." I did not put capital letter to the name of the paper for it is unworthy of one. Uncover their sins and show the people that they are wolves in sheep's clothing.

Rev. A. H. Alexander,
Butler, Ky.

NOTE—The above is only a sample of letters we receive showing the great hatred for the turn-coat magazine that has sold its soul to the wet crowd. Of course, dries will stop taking it.

ASBURY COLLEGE, Wilmore, Ky.

Asbury College is standard college of liberal arts, recognized as a senior college of "A" grade by the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky State Department of Education. It is a member of the Association of Kentucky Colleges and Universities and the American Association of Colleges. Her credits are accepted by the State Department for Certification of High School Teachers. The curriculum of the College includes courses in the following departments: Art, Astronomy, Bible, Biology, Chemistry, Education, English, French, Geology, German, Greek, History, Home Economics, Latin, Library, Science, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Education, Social Science, Spanish, and Speech.

Spiritually, Asbury is unique, registering with special emphasis on soul culture and emphasizing experientially the gospel of full redemption. At the same time in no sense does she neglect the mental or

physical training of the large student body that comes to her from almost every state in the United States and from several foreign countries. Her faculty is made up of consecrated men and women of broad intellectual training and scholarship who put the welfare and interests of the student first.

Beautifully situated in the wonderful Blue Grass section of Kentucky, near many points of historical interest, such as Fort Harrod and Shakerstown, and close to the magnificent scenery along the Kentucky river where it cuts through solid limestone to a depth of 300 feet and being in the sunny climate of Central Kentucky, Asbury's location is an ideal one. It is close to the center of population in America, and is easily accessible from every quarter. The seat of the college, WILMORE, is on the main lines of the Southern Railroad, 100 miles south of Cincinnati and 17 miles from Lexington.

COUNTY OFFICIALS ARE AROUSED BY EXPOSURES

Marion County Citizens Stirred—County Attorney Hill Writes Caustic Letter and Makes Threats—Taylor County Bad and Law Enforcement Lax—Dirty Politics in Logan County While Butler County is Cursed With Wet Officials—Grayson County Fine—Greene County Doing Well and Simpson Good—Many Fine, Dry Officials in Kentucky—Next Year all County Officials to Elected—Independents to Play Big Game in Helping to Clean up State—Honor Where Honor is Due—Condemnation for all Officials Who Fail to Do Their Duty.

In our last issue we took to task the county officials of Marion County, with Lebanon county-seat, for their lax enforcement of the prohibition law, and what looks like a conspiracy on their part to break down the Eighteenth Amendment. That article has had its expected and intended effect—It has aroused the decent people of Marion county and has stirred the temper of the county officials. We hope that in the end the officials of Marion county will break their alliance with the criminal bootlegger and drive him from the county. We hold no feeling against these officials and can only wish for them great success in what seems to be a new spirit in the court house, to take sides from now on with the decent people and to tell the bootleggers to go to—well, you name the place.

But do not think for one single moment that Marion county is the only hot-bed of bootleggers running at large without even a thought of county molestation in Kentucky. Marion does not, we are sorry to say, stand alone in this respect, nor would we say, is the worst county in the state. There are some counties possibly worse than Marion.

Nor does politics seem to cut any figure in law enforcement in Kentucky, or in any other state. Many counties in Kentucky wholly controlled by Republicans are just as bad as Marion, and other counties, wholly controlled by Democrats. And on the other hand, the few cases in prohibition enforcement found in Kentucky are in both Democratic and Republican territories.

For instance, over in Butler county, a county almost two to one Republican, we find a horrible situation. The county authorities just seem to hug up every bootlegger to their bosom and kiss them as they pass by, so lovely do they get along. We were in Butler some months ago and know what we are talking about. Republican officials in Butler county should either start a law enforcement campaign that would rid the county of many of its bootleggers or the good people of Butler county at the next county election should turn in and drive from power every person in the county court house who refuse to enforce the law.

Then right down south of Butler county stands good old Logan county, a county that possibly has more good people in it than any other county its size and more dirty politicians in it than can be found south of the Ohio River and north of the Gulf. Logan county is sunk in dirty politics and her politicians smell so loud that one can tell a Logan county politician by his smell. Last year we were in the court house at Russellville and were talking to one of the deputy sheriffs in the sheriff's office. He was a big, fat fellow and looked like he could swallow a half dozen bootleggers and have room for a few prohibitionists, but had we not left as soon as we did he would have swallowed us.

A brave Methodist preacher at Lewisburg in the northern part of Logan county, seeing his town was run over with bootleggers, started a campaign against the fellows selling liquor in his home town. This Methodist preacher was shot at by a gang of bootleggers, holes were shot through his windows, and not for weeks could he obtain the least co-operation from the county officials. Logan county is Democratic, just as Butler is Republican.

At the writing of this, we are not for from the county-seat of Taylor county, Campbellsville. Thousands of good men and women live in Taylor county; they voted dry years ago and will vote dry again. We are just in receipt of a letter from a prominent party in that county asking us if anything can be done to make the county officials enforce the law. We have told her that nothing can be done to make the county officials enforce the law save to trot to the polls the next time and get another set of officials. Of course when the county officials read this some of them, and possibly all of them, might feel like taking a tour through the bootleg district and round them up, as the county officials here, as elsewhere, are very good people, but slow on catching bootlegging criminals. We hope our good friend who wrote us from Campbellsville will get busy and organize the county for law enforcement and then go and demand of the county officials that they turn in and do their duty, and if they do, they will turn in a lot of bootleggers.

Do not think for one moment that all of Kentucky is overrun with bootleggers, for it is not. There are many fine spots in the state where the county officials do their full share of law enforcement. Take for instance that stalwart Democratic county, Simpson, where also lives thousands of good men and women. The county officials of Simpson county are one-hundred percent on enforcing not only the liquor laws but all laws. Just as soon as a bootlegger bobs up and it is known that bootlegger bobs in jail. Then take that stalwart Republican county, Green, just south of Louisville. The way these local officials go after the bootlegger would make a man's head swim.

Then there comes Grayson county, often Republican, but sometimes Democratic, and her officials bring in the bootleggers almost as fast as they bob up.

So you see it makes no difference what political complexion a county might have, whether Democratic or Republican or just a mixture, there are good spots in both and bad spots in both. Next month we will take six or eight counties and give them the once over, just for the fun of those who live in them, and hope that we can stir the sleepy, if not stupid, county officials to do their duty.

All the officials are receiving a copy of this paper, so we are doing nothing behind their backs. But we are not yet done with Marion county.

When we wrote that article for last month's issue we knew it would stir up a hornet's nest, and it did.

C. S. Hill, the able county attorney, in whose county these bootleggers have had easy sailing, and some of them possibly making a little money, became offended at us, and we are in receipt of the following nice little letter:

Mr. W. M. Likins, Editor of the American Independent, Owensboro, Kentucky.

Dear Sir: I received your paper and read the article therein regarding "Marion County Officials Proving False to their Oaths" and you said, while in Lebanon the writer was told about the number of bootleg-joints within three blocks of the Court House and just what these bootleggers are paying the County Officials etc."

I am going to have the coming Grand Jury to go to the bottom of this and I want you to give me the name or names of the one or ones who gave you this information, otherwise, I will have you before the Grand Jury to give this information, and I mean exactly what I say. The one who gave you this information is a dirty low-life, slimy lying scoundrel, I care not who he is, and I am going to the bottom of this publication, regardless of all circumstances.

Let me hear from you at once.

Yours truly,

C. S. Hill, County Attorney

April 14, 1932

When Mr. Hill asks us to come before the grand jury to find out in one day what he has had two or three years to find out, he is begging the question. While there we talked to court house men, or at least we thought they were, and they told us "prohibition is a failure," and that "prohibition won't prohibit," and such stuff. Now, Mr. Hill comes forward with great authority and demands that we come to Marion and clean up the county. That is Mr. Hill's duty, not ours. Our duty is to clean up the court house in case Mr. Hill and others do not clean up the county. One can be done just about as easily as the other.

It is not our method to print anonymous letters, but as a wet is generally a coward, not wanting the people to know who he is, we will print an unsigned letter we have just received from one who signs his name "Marion County Crusader," which letter follows:

Dear Mr. Likins: "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise."

Your recent issue of the Independent contains a "close-up" of the conditions existing in our fair little city—which have been made possible by the greatest folly of all time—namely, the passage of "the noble experiment."

Although your theory, Mr. Likins, is in direct divergence to mine, I hasten to thank and congratulate you; for you have "nailed down" the very argument we use in our appeal for repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. Your article proves conclusively that prohibition has made a farce of law and order—has corrupted honest officials and has set up dives and speakeasies, over which there is no control by the people; so you cannot begin to understand just how much good you have done our cause in this community.

I am also authorized by the County Judge to advise you that our grand jury meets next week, and you will not be only invited—but it will be insisted upon—that you appear before that body and give them this information which you have so courageously obtained.

The County Judge says further more, that he will be glad to issue warrant of arrest for persons upon your sworn affidavit to the fact that they have been guilty of any of the charges you bring.

"We'll be waiting for you."

Marion County Crusader
Lebanon, Ky.

This defender of the booze business who refuses to sign his name, will be known at least by some of the county officials when they see this issue of The Independent. This "Crusader," spare the name, rants about law violation, says it cannot be enforced, and then takes sides with the county officials and by inference denies there is bootlegging in Marion county. He first jumps on us and then takes the side of the county officials. We will call it all square and a task well done, if only this little paper has succeeded in stirring up the county officials of Marion county so that the next time we visit their fine little city we may not be able to see the negro joint and a half dozen cars parked in his back yard, the joint being run under the name of a blacksmith shop.

And while on this subject, we wish to inform the county attorney that Lebanon is also infested with certain houses of assignation, which is even worse than bootleg joints. We kindly ask the good county attorney to see that the city authorities get hold of this information that they may use their good offices to "clean up Lebanon," and rid her of a few persons that do not generally add much that is good to the name of a city.

As to the language Mr. Hill used in his letter to us, forget it; he was probably not feeling the best when he wrote

it. We are sure that from now on the bootleggers in Marion county will not have it all roses but that a few thorns will be thrown in their paths. Watch out for our next month's issue as we will take up several new counties and let their officers know that they are not doing their whole duty.

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